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### Things that annoy me

Let me start off by explaining issues that are not only annoying to me, but annoying to many other people as well. The first one being how most of us sit around neglecting all the atrocities that are taking place around the world. This year in Global Studies, we talked about the Syrian Civil War, the Genocide in Darfur and many other horrific events. I did not even know of these killings prior to the class, even I am part of the problem. Everyday adults, and children are suffering to get access what we have readily available. We don't think twice when we are handed food, or given something to drink, or even about the house we live in. However these children in the war stricken countries constantly worry if they will be lucky enough to wake up the next day. Parts of our media are at blame for this ignorance we show. For example, and this really annoyed me, CNN has been covering the missing Malaysia Airplane for almost twenty-four days now and skipping over news that is actually relevant. I sincerely feel sorry for the people who lost their loved ones on the plane and I do hope they find the plane, however broadcasting hundreds of scenarios will not put anyone at ease. Sad to say, but even if Americans are educated about these horrific events, most of them will feel bad at first but then forget about it a week later. Even I was a victim of this, until this year. I find myself much more concerned than before.

This lack of concern for these third-world countries expands on an another thing that annoys me. No matter how hard we try, we cannot make a difference and stop these killings. A few humans are brave enough to try to solve these problems and even may travel to the country to help the victims. Sadly, this does not have an effect on the overall situation. Now I am not saying we should stop helping and just hope for the best. I do not know what to say, and that is what annoys me. I learned about what

children ,at my age and even younger, have to face and how I can't do anything to help the cause. I can make a difference for a few individuals, but that won't help the overall cause.

Another thing that is found annoying nationwide, is the concern that we are showing in regards to celebrity's lives. Almost all the time, there are TV shows or magazines that cover the smallest details regarding celebrities. Whether it be about a newly bought dog or what they ate for breakfast, America will know about it. I don't believe that we should rely on this information as a source of entertainment, it's just sad. Furthermore with all the attention given to these celebrities, people with no talent get recognized with the same praise. With current day visual and audio effects just about anyone can become a star. There a just a few who are lucky enough to get the opportunity. Iconic example, Kim Kardashian has no real talent however there she has her own show that explains what happens to her just about everyday. She has been given fame that she does not deserve. I believe that people should put some more time into their own lives and families instead of leeching off famous peoples'. Its important not to forget that celebrities are mostly just like you and I, with perhaps a huge ego in some cases.

Now I will explain a few things that annoy me personally. These things pertain to the high school, and it makes sense considering I spend most of my time at school. School lunches. Need I say more? School lunches are the worst. One the food is horrible, and two the cost is is completely unreasonable. For example for a small slice of pizza it would cost two dollars and fifty cents, and it doesn't even fill you. Further more, the prices are hidden and most students don't care. I have been buying this lunch thinking it was two dollars but in reality it was three dollars and fifty cents. You might say that one dollar doesn't make a big difference but when you buy lunch every day it adds up. What annoys me the most is that the school does not care too much. They see us students as a source of

profit and feed off our ignorance. Most students spend their parents money without any second thoughts, and most parents don't mind giving money for food. The only benefactors from this are the corporations like Chartwells. They could care less about consumer satisfaction as long as they are making money.

Another thing that annoys me is a highschoolers ability to work as a team. Whenever I am placed in a group for any sort of project, nine out of ten times there is dead silence. There is this moment of utter awkwardness that I usually have to break. Even though we all are given a clear task no one seems to want to start a discussion or conversation. I am the one that usually has to start the discussion or assign roles, and it is not fun. Some group member will be upset and might not even do anything. Against the cliché, the team is as strong as its weakest member, I believe that the team is as good as the strongest member. However this only applies in high school group project scenarios. What annoys me is that there are a few people who end up doing the most work and everyone gets graded evenly. High School groups almost never work out favorably. Most people are incompetent and have great difficulties working coherently with others.

The major thing that annoys me is the grading system that our schools are asked to follow. Most of our grades are determined by tests. This in itself is not that much of an issue, we do need some motivation to do well. What really annoys me is when people start to judge a person's capabilities by their grades. Just because someone is not doing the best in school does not mean they are not less of a human than you. Grades are a substitute way measure knowledge, and by substitute I mean that it should change to a more efficient way. I also feel that grades measure your ability to regurgitate information that you will most likely forget after the test. It does not measure your ability to use the information and apply it to real life situations. And our school system is part of the problem. Classes are geared to teach

students to follow a textbook and study a specific topic for a test. They are later rewarded for their ability to retain the information. This forces the kids to work for grades and not the joy of learning. However we are punished if we do not work for grades. At home we are looked down upon, we won't get into college and that definitely means we won't get a job. This is also something else that annoys me, when parents judge their children's abilities by a letter they see on a website. Sometimes they don't realize that the kid is trying but is struggling. I am fortunate enough to have parents that are understanding and wonder why I got the bad grade and constantly let me know that it's okay to make mistakes. If we do learn for the sake of learning and no other intentions, we will succeed. For example, Bill Gates (yea everyone's example for a successful dropout) dropped out and pursued what he enjoyed not what got him good grades. Grades should not be a way to determine a student's ability to succeed in the real world.

Most of the things I listed here is because I can't do anything to change them. Each of the scenarios or situations I choose are inevitable and is something that I will and somewhat have learned to live with. Most of these aren't life or death but just annoying that gets me worked up sometimes.